

those who have joined the Congressional Cystic Fibrosis Caucus. And anyone who is watching is welcome to call my office or Mr. MARKEY's office. We would like to have your support, and we look forward to it.

So, my colleagues, please join me in honoring and supporting the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month by simply agreeing to H. Con. Res. 357.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). Members should direct their comments to the Chair and not to the television audience.

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank my friend from Florida Mr. STEARNS. He and I have partnered on the resolution and on cofounding the Congressional Cystic Fibrosis Caucus. And I want to thank him for his commitment to CF, its cause, and the difference that this institution can make in helping to find the cure. It is, without question, something that we can agree upon on a bipartisan basis.

The resolution before us today is to support the goals and the ideals of the National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month, and it is really so that we can bring the most powerful four-letter word to this cause, and that word is "hope"; hope that the United States Government will increase its funding, will help to find the cure for this dreaded disease, that we can give hope to the families who are affected by it. And today is a really important day on that path because for the first time we do have a caucus, and this resolution in a lot of ways will memorialize that and give more momentum to finding the cure.

CF is one of the most common life-threatening genetic diseases in the United States. People with CF produce abnormally thick, sticky mucus, which makes breathing very difficult. They find, as a result, they cough and they wheeze constantly and are at constant risk for life-threatening lung infections.

Approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States have cystic fibrosis, but it affects far more than those 30,000 people. It affects all of the families and the loved ones of those people who are struggling with this horrible disease. It affects the moms who have to wake up at 5 a.m. so that they can pound on their child's chest before they go to work. It affects their siblings who have to wait with their sister while she goes to yet another doctor's appointment. And it affects the dads who worry that their child will never grow up to have a normal life. This resolution is about supporting these families and providing them with the hope for a better future.

Significant improvements have been made in the treatment of cystic fibrosis. A few decades ago many children

with CF did not live past 10 years of age. Today life expectancy is 35 years of age, and much of these achievements are due to the hard work and the dedication of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. That is why CFF really stands for courageous fighting families, courageous fighting friends of those families.

Yet even with this incredible work of our courageous fighting families, we still have a long way to go to provide the people with CF with a normal and healthy life. It is time for Congress to become more involved in the pursuit of a cure. We need to make a greater investment in research and make a stronger commitment to the people with CF, their families, and their caretakers.

This is something which in the 21st century we should leave as a forgotten memory, but we can only do it if we provide hope now. It is the most powerful word in the English language: Hope that we can raise awareness of the families struggling with CF, hope that we can find better treatments and ultimately a cure, hope that our children will have to turn to the history books to find that there ever was such a thing as cystic fibrosis.

I thank, again, the cochair of the caucus Mr. STEARNS. This is now going to bring a larger, more powerful spotlight on this disease. And hopefully, working together in a bipartisan fashion, we can address this as a human issue and not as a Democrat or Republican issue.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 357, offered by the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS). This resolution would support the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month.

Cystic Fibrosis is one of the most common life-threatening genetic diseases in the United States. Approximately 30,000 people in the United States have cystic fibrosis, and about 1,000 new cases of cystic fibrosis are diagnosed each year. Tragically, more than half of those with CF are children. As I stand here today, more than 10 million Americans are unknowing, symptom-free carriers of the cystic fibrosis gene.

Significant improvements have been made in the treatment of cystic fibrosis. Just a few decades ago, children with CF did not live past 10 years of age. Today the life expectancy has improved, and the number of adults with CF has steadily grown. Even so, there is no cure for this disease, and much still must be done to provide people with CF with a normal and healthy life expectancy.

Early diagnosis is the key, and that is why it's so important that we work to further public awareness and understanding of cystic fibrosis. We must increase support for those affected by this disease and ensure that they have access to quality care, and we also must support research to find a cure for CF.

I am proud to provide my support to this cause, and I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 357 so that the month of May can be dedicated to educating all Americans about cystic fibrosis, about the courage of those who suffer from this disease, and about the important research underway to find a cure.

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 357.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR THE GREATER WASHINGTON SOAP BOX DERBY

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 349) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 349

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF SOAP BOX DERBY RACES ON CAPITOL GROUNDS.

The Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association (in this resolution referred to as the "Association") shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, soap box derby races, on the Capitol Grounds on June 17, 2006, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate.

SEC. 2. CONDITIONS.

The event to be carried out under this resolution shall be free of admission charge to the public and arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress, under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board; except that the Association shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 3. STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT.

For the purposes of this resolution, the Association is authorized to erect upon the Capitol Grounds, subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for the event to be carried out under this resolution.

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board are authorized to make any such additional arrangements that may be required to carry out the event under this resolution.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays,

and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, with respect to the event to be carried out under this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 349.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

House Concurrent Resolution 349 authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 65th Annual Greater Washington Soap Box Derby to be held June 17, 2006. The resolution also authorizes the Architect of the Capitol; the U.S. Capitol Police; and the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association, the sponsor of the event, to negotiate the necessary arrangements for carrying out this traditional event in compliance with the rules and regulations governing the use of the Capitol Grounds.

The Greater Washington Soap Box Derby is one of the largest qualifying races in the country. This race takes place on Constitution Avenue between Delaware Avenue and Third Street, NW. Participants are residents of the Washington metropolitan area and range in age from 8 to 17. The winners of these races will represent the Washington metropolitan area at the national finals, held annually in Akron, Ohio.

I support this concurrent resolution, which continues our custom of authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for this exciting event, and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), a good friend of mine and the prime sponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 349, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

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Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVIS) for yielding me time. I want to thank my friend from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) for his leadership on this issue.

Madam Speaker, for the 16th straight year, I am proud to sponsor the resolution allowing the Greater Washington

Soap Box Derby Association to hold its annual race on the grounds of the United States Capitol.

H. Con. Res. 349 authorizes the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board to work with the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association to ensure that all the necessary arrangements are made to conduct this race in complete compliance with the rules and regulations governing the use of the Capitol Grounds. The 65th annual Greater Washington Soap Box Derby will be held on Saturday, June 17.

Soap box derby racing, Madam Speaker, in our Nation's Capital has a long and rich tradition. In 1938, Norman Rocca beat out 233 other racers to win the inaugural Greater Washington Soap Box Derby, which was held on New Hampshire.

Over the years, thousands of the region's young people have participated in this great race, although the location has varied from the original site on New Hampshire Avenue to Capitol Hill, with stops on Massachusetts Avenue, Pennsylvania Avenue, and Eastern Avenue along the way.

The essence of the race has remained the same. homemade gravity-powered cars, the spirit of competition, and the pure joy of racing. The Soap Box Derby consists of dozens of drivers, both boys and girls, ranging in ages from 8 to 17. These racers are divided into three divisions: stock, superstock and masters. The local winners of each division will automatically qualify to compete with racers from around the world in the 69th All-American Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio, on July 22 of this year.

The festivities in Akron begin when the racers receive a police escort into town and conclude in the winner's circle with the awarding of scholarships and merchandise. In between, the racers and their families participate in a whirlwind of activities that leave them with enduring friendships and memories to last a lifetime.

The past 6 years, the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby has had one of its participants finish in the top 10 in the All-American competition. In fact, last year's master's division champion, Robbie Reuss of Waldorf, finished an impressive second in Akron. Robbie's finish surpassed Gene Bean's third in the 1941 All-American and is the best finish for a representative of the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. I am very proud of Robbie, and I am hopeful that this might finally be the year when one of our racers from the Greater Washington area is finally crowned world champion.

Madam Speaker, this event has been called the greatest amateur racing event in the world, and it is an excellent opportunity for the contestants from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia to learn basic building skills while gaining a real sense of accomplishment.

Madam Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues, as I expect them to,

to join me with the other original cosponsors of this resolution, Representative FRANK WOLF, Representative JAMES MORAN, Representative ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, Representative AL WYNN, and Representative CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, in supporting this resolution and congratulating all the participants.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, there are many things in America that are purely American. It is my understanding that the Soap Box Derby races that we have is purely an American phenomenon that started here. Other countries may have adopted it, but it is wonderful to be a part of this legislation that makes it possible for young men and young women to broaden their minds and their scientific knowledge as they develop the skills of building the eventual vehicle that they will ride, hopefully to victory.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to support, along with Mr. HOYER, Mr. WOLF, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. WYNN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. NORTON House Concurrent Resolution 349, and acknowledge the efforts of Mr. HOYER, who has been such a great and consistent champion for his constituents for this event.

House Concurrent Resolution 349 authorizes use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. On June 17, 2006 youngsters from the greater Washington area will race down Constitution Ave. to test the principles of aerodynamics in hand designed and constructed soap box vehicles. All the contestants, ages 9 through 16, construct and operate their own soap box vehicles.

Madam Speaker, the All American Soap Box Derby originated in 1933 and quickly became a national phenomenon. There are now more than 150 races currently taking place nationwide to determine 440 qualifiers for the national race finals held in Akron, Ohio.

Madam Speaker, many hundreds of volunteers donate considerable time supporting the event and providing families with a fun filled day, which is quickly becoming a tradition in the Washington, DC area. The event has grown in popularity and Washington is now known as one of the outstanding race cities.

Consistent with all events using the Capitol Grounds, this event is open to the public and free of charge. The organizers will work with the Capitol Hill Police and the Office of the Architect.

I support House Concurrent Resolution 349 and urge passage of this resolution.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I join Mr. HOYER and Ms. NORTON, together with Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. WYNN, in supporting House Concurrent Resolution 349, to authorize use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. I especially want to acknowledge the dedication of Mr. HOYER, the resolution's annual sponsor, who faithfully introduces this resolution to authorize use of the Capitol Grounds for such a worthwhile event.

This annual event encourages all boys and girls, ages nine through 16, to construct and operate their own soap box vehicles. The

Washington event, which attracts a great number of spectators and extensive media coverage, has grown in size and has become one of the best-attended events in the country. The winner in each of three divisions wins a trip to the national race in Akron, as well as trophies and prizes.

The principles of aerodynamics are combined with fun and excitement for all participants and their families in the Greater Washington area. It is an excellent opportunity for parents to have direct involvement in their children's activities. The derby's mission is to provide children with an activity that promotes technical and social skills that will serve them throughout their lives.

The derby organizers will work with the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police to ensure the appropriate rules and regulations are in place for the event.

I support this resolution and urge my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 349.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 349.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN ENTERPRISE FOR THE AMERICAS MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4916) to authorize United States participation in, and appropriations for, the United States contribution to the first replenishment of the resources of the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4916

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FIRST REPLENISHMENT OF THE RESOURCES OF THE ENTERPRISE FOR THE AMERICAS MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND.

The Inter-American Development Bank Act (22 U.S.C. 283 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 39. FIRST REPLENISHMENT OF THE RESOURCES OF THE ENTERPRISE FOR THE AMERICAS MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND.

"(a) CONTRIBUTION AUTHORITY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury may contribute on behalf of the United States \$150,000,000 to the first replenishment of the resources of the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund.

"(2) SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATIONS.—The authority provided by paragraph (1) may be exercised only to the extent and in the amounts provided for in advance in appropriations Acts.

"(b) LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the United States contribution authorized by subsection (a), there are authorized to be appropriated not more than \$150,000,000, without fiscal year limitation, for payment by the Secretary of the Treasury."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Multilateral Investment Fund, or MIF, was created as a mechanism to stimulate innovation and economic growth for Latin America and Caribbean countries and is operated by the Inter-American Development Bank, IADB, an organization that oversees many programs and loans that benefit the economically challenged in those areas.

Projects funded through the MIF are focused on new development approaches that work to promote inclusive economic growth. The IADB has made the central goal of the MIF to use both grants and investments to demonstrate new ways in developing micro- and small enterprises, to build workers' skills, strengthen environmental management, and improve the functions of financial markets.

This legislation fulfills the President's FY 2007 budget request for \$25 million, or a total of \$150 million over 6 years, to be given in replenishing the MIF and meet the U.S. commitment.

At the close of FY 2005, the total amount of projects approved by the MIF exceeded \$1 billion, encompassing 799 projects with an additional \$1 billion in co-financing that was put to use in meeting MIF goals.

Our authorizing this new replenishment allows for a continuation of all the good work the IADB has been doing in the area of microfinance.

Microfinance projects are especially important to developing areas in helping break the cycle of poverty by providing a loan to start a small or micro-enterprise, a business usually defined as having less than 10 employees in an economic hardship area.

Through small business growth, areas are then able to demonstrate that they have potential to attract wider sources of capital and enable further expansion of services for micro-enterprises. Building the small firm sector offers the greatest potential to generating job growth, which will lead to lasting freedom from poverty.

The MIF has pioneered the creation of venture capital for small business in Latin America and the Caribbean and continues to look for opportunities that would improve venture capital for small businesses by supporting reforms and regulatory and legislative frameworks, and by helping to remove barriers to small business financing.

This legislation honors our commitment to these countries, will attract further capital investment and help create stable, reliable trading partners in these developing nations.

Madam Speaker, I am so pleased to have the ranking members of the full committee and my subcommittee, Mr. FRANK and Mrs. MALONEY, as well as my subcommittee vice chair, Mrs. BIGGERT, and Chairman SPENCER BACHUS, joining me in supporting this replenishment; and I ask for my colleagues to support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong bipartisan support of H.R. 4916, a bill that will authorize continued United States participation in and appropriations for the U.S. contribution to the first replenishment of the resources of the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund.

This bill was introduced with strong bipartisan support by Representative PRYCE, who chairs the subcommittee on which I serve as the ranking member, Congressman FRANK, Congresswoman BIGGERT and myself, and was reported unanimously out of the committee by voice vote.

The MIF is operated by the Inter-American Development Bank and is governed by a donors committee composed of representatives of 37 member countries. The United States is the MIF's largest contributor with 42 percent, and as such exercises considerable influence over its strategic direction and the individual projects it approves.

The MIF does exactly the kinds of things that those who follow the work of the international financial institutions on both sides of the aisle wish these institutions would do. Its principal work is to administer a private sector grant program to assist in developing microenterprises which particularly help small women-owned businesses, it builds workers' skills, it strengthens environmental management, and it improves the efficiency of financial markets in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Roughly 80 percent of MIF projects are undertaken in direct partnership with private sector business associations, trade groups and non-governmental organizations. Typically, MIF resources are matched dollar for dollar with contributions from these groups.

MIF resources also leverage additional funds from other sources, providing a multiplier effect for projects